



Achievements in

A large, rectangular image with rounded corners occupies the middle section of the cover. It shows a view from space, looking down at the Earth's horizon. The sky is a deep blue, transitioning to a bright orange and yellow glow at the horizon line, where the sun is setting or rising. Dark, silhouetted clouds are visible along the horizon. The image is set against a dark blue background.

# Stratospheric Ozone Protection

P R O G R E S S   R E P O R T

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# Achievements in Stratospheric Ozone Protection

P R O G R E S S   R E P O R T



# About This Report

Countries around the world are phasing out the production and use of chemicals that destroy ozone in the Earth's upper atmosphere. The United States has already phased out production of those substances having the greatest potential to deplete the ozone layer. At the same time, we have ensured that businesses and consumers have alternatives that are safer for the ozone layer than the chemicals they replace. These vital measures are helping to protect human health and the global environment.

With our many partners, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proud to have been part of a broad coalition that developed and implemented flexible, innovative, and effective approaches to ensure stratospheric ozone layer protection. These partnerships have fundamentally changed the way we do business, spurring the development of new technologies that not only protect the ozone layer but, in many cases, also save energy and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Together, we continue to look for alternatives and technologies that are as ozone- and climate-friendly as possible.

This report covers the important and substantial achievements of the people, programs, and organizations that are working to protect the Earth's ozone layer. As impressive as these accomplishments are, our work is not done. Even though we have reduced or eliminated the use of many ozone-depleting substances, some still remain. Additionally, since ozone-depleting substances persist in the air for long periods of time, the past use of these substances continues to affect the ozone layer today. We must also continue to ensure that the alternatives being brought to the market support the country's long-term environmental goals in a cost-effective manner.



“ Those of us who have been fighting for the ozone layer since the early 1980s look back in amazement at what has been accomplished. Most of us consider our work on ozone as the most important part of our lives. ”

—Dr. Iwona Rummel-Bulska,  
United Nations Environment Programme